



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jose Manuel Alguera Gallego et al.

Examiner: S. Marsh

Serial No: 09/786,041

Group Art Unit: 3632

Filed: May 14, 2001

Date: April 15, 2003

For: "SUPPORTING DEVICE"

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AFFIDAVIT OF JOSE MANUEL ALGUERA GALLEGO

Jose Manuel Alguera Gallego, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a named inventor on the above-identified patent application.
2. The amendatory material added in Amendment "A," which I have read and understand, and was received by the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 23, 2002 included new FIG. 7 which was labeled as "Prior Art." The amendatory material was incorporated by reference from FIG. 1 of European Patent Application EP 0 322 634 A2 and the description thereof, which discloses and describes a typical prior art support device as explained within the Applicants' specification. The amendatory material included a description of FIG. 7 which is a copy of the FIG. 1 drawing of EP 0 322 634 A2, and stated, "FIG. 7 illustrates a semi-trailer 23 having a supporting device 24 which as known to one of ordinary skill in the art includes a support foot 28 attached to an inner sleeve 26 which is expandable and/or retractable in outer sleeve 25 through an actuator, such as crank 27;" and "FIG. 7 is a perspective view of a prior art support device including an outer sleeve, an inner sleeve which is extendable and/or retractable in the outer sleeve through a crank, and a support foot attached to the inner sleeve, with the outer sleeve of the support device connected to a semi-trailer."

3. The amendatory material consists of the same material incorporated by reference in the referencing application.
4. Accordingly, the Applicant has properly amended the disclosure to include the material incorporated by reference.

3 April 2003  
Date

  
Jose Manuel Alguera Gallego

R. Slanau  
Witness Signature

RITA STARRMANN  
Witness (Name Printed)

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